AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **AMEND** claims 1, 17, 22 and 24-27.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating area information in a common framework implemented on hardware, comprising the steps of:

providing to the hardware a first set of instructions which generates an area of interest (AOI) defined by a first geometric shape;

defining with the hardware the first geometric shape by one or more coordinates; and

converting with the hardware the one or more coordinates to a second set of coordinates for use with a second set of instructions different than the first set of instructions,

wherein the second set of coordinates is defined by a new AOI which includes information associated with the first set of instructions and which is interpreted by the second set of instructions, and

wherein the common framework provides that different recognition AOI systems, each using its own set of conventions for describing area information, is compatible with one another.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the new AOI associated with second set of instructions define a second geometric shape.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the first geometric shape is a same shape as the second geometric shape.

2

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the first geometric shape is different than the second geometric shape.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the first geometric shape is more constrained than the second geometric shape.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the first and the second geometric shape is one of a bounding box, a parallelogram, a rectangle and a polygon.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the bounding box is more constrained than the parallelogram, the rectangle and the polygon.

8. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the one or more coordinates and the second set of coordinates are at least one point which defines the first geometric shape and the second geometric shape, respectively.

9. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of rotating the second geometric shape by a predetermined amount compared to the first geometric shape.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of rotating is performed about an origin (0,0).

11. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of translating the second geometric shape by a predetermined amount compared to the first geometric shape.

12. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of scaling the second geometric shape by a predetermined amount compared to the first geometric shape.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the step of scaling is performed in at least one of a vertical (Y) and horizontal direction (X).

14. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of mirroring points of the second geometric shape by a predetermined amount compared to the first geometric shape about one of a horizontal and vertical axis.

15. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of orienting the second geometric shape differently than the first geometric shape.

16. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of defining the first geometric shape includes the steps of determining whether the first geometric shape includes one of:
   (i) at least three points;
   (ii) a distinct starting point, fast end point and a slow end point;
   (iii) a non-zero distance between a starting point and a fast end point; and
   (iv) a non zero area.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 16,~~ A method for communicating area information in a common framework implemented on hardware, comprising the steps of:
   providing to the hardware a first set of instructions which generates an area of interest (AOI) defined by a first geometric shape;
   defining with the hardware the first geometric shape by one or more coordinates; and

converting with the hardware the one or more coordinates to a second set of coordinates for use with a second set of instructions different than the first set of instructions,

wherein the second set of coordinates is defined by a new AOI which includes information associated with the first set of instructions and which is interpreted by the second set of instructions,

wherein the new AOI associated with second set of instructions define a second geometric shape,

wherein the step of defining the first geometric shape includes the steps of determining whether the first geometric shape includes one of:

(i) at least three points;

(ii) a distinct starting point, fast end point and a slow end point;

(iii) a non-zero distance between a starting point and a fast end point; and

(iv) a non zero area, and

wherein after the determination of the first geometric shape, the method includes the steps of providing:

(i) the at least three points used to define a polygon;

(ii) the distinct starting point, fast end point and a slow end point used to define a parallelogram;

(iii) the non-zero distance between the starting point and the fast end point used to define a rectangle; and

(iv) the non zero area used to define a bounding box.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein after the determination that there are the at least three points, the method further comprises the steps of:

determining whether there are any crossovers; if there are no crossover then copying polygon information to the AOI; and

setting a current AOI to the polygon.

5

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein after the determination that there are the distinct starting point, fast end point and slow end point, the method further comprises the steps of:

converting parallelogram information to a temporary polygon;

copying the temporary polygon to an AOI initial polygon;

setting an AOI initial style to "parallelogram";

copying from the temporary polygon to an AOI current polygon; and

setting an AOI current style to the "parallelogram".

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein after the determination that there is the non-zero distance, the method further comprising the steps of:

determining whether the slow length is greater than 0;

if the slow length is greater than 0, converting a rectangle to a temporary polygon;

copying the temporary polygon to an AOI initial polygon;

setting an AOI initial style to "rectangle";

copying the temporary polygon to an AOI current polygon; and

setting the rectangle in an AOI current style to the "rectangle".

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein after the determination that there is the non-zero area, the method comprising:

converting bounding box information to a temporary polygon;

copying the temporary polygon to an AOI initial polygon;

setting an AOI initial style to "bounding box";

copying the temporary polygon to an AOI current polygon; and

setting an AOI current style to the "bounding box".

22. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating area information in a common framework implemented on hardware, comprising the steps of:

filling a handle with an initial area of interest (AOI) space associated with a first set of instructions using the hardware;

defining a geometric shape associated with the initial AOI using the hardware;

converting the initial AOI space to a second AOI space associated with a second set of instructions using the hardware; and

accessing the second AOI space with the second set of instructions,

wherein the common framework provides that different recognition AOI systems, each using its own set of conventions for describing area information, is compatible with one another.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the second AOI space has the same shape or is more constrained than the initial AOI space.

24. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating area information in a common framework, comprising:

means for providing a first set of instructions which generate an area of information (AOI) and which is defined by a first geometric shape;

means for defining the first geometric shape by one or more coordinates; and

means for converting the one or more coordinates associated with the first geometric shape to a second set of coordinates for use with a second set of instructions,

wherein the second set of instructions are different than the first set of instructions, and the second set of coordinates further generate the AOI which includes information associated with the first set of instructions capable of being interpreted by the second set of instructions,

wherein the common framework provides that different recognition AOI systems, each using its own set of conventions for describing area information, is compatible with one another.

25. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium containing code which causes hardware to perform a method for communicating area information in a common framework, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first set of instructions which generate an area of information (AOI) and which is defined by a first geometric shape;

defining the first geometric shape by one or more coordinates; and

converting the one or more coordinates associated with the first geometric shape to a second set of coordinates for use with a second set of instructions,

wherein the second set of instructions are different than the first set of instructions, and the second set of coordinates further generate the AOI which includes information associated with the first set of instructions capable of being interpreted by the second set of instructions,

wherein the common framework provides that different recognition AOI systems, each using its own set of conventions for describing area information, is compatible with one another.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the new ~~AOL~~ AOI defines a bounded area shape and wherein, after the converting, the first geometric shape is bounded or constrained by the bounded area shape.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the second ~~AOL~~ AOI space defines a bounded area shape and wherein, after the converting, the geometric shape is bounded or constrained by the bounded area shape.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, further comprising means for generating a bounded area shape, wherein the first geometric shape is bounded or constrained by the bounded area shape.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, further comprising generating a bounded area shape and wherein, after the converting, the first geometric shape is bounded or constrained by the bounded area shape.